

## Wheaton College Board of Trustees Statement on Community, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Wheaton College Board of Trustees is committed to achieving equity, inclusivity, and diversity through respect for, curiosity about, and empathy towards its board members. In this commitment, we affirm the standards that guide the entire Wheaton community:

*“Being a part of Wheaton means making a commitment to understanding, appreciating and engaging difference... Affirming diversity means rejecting stereotypes and bigotry based on gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, religion, ability or lifestyle. It means each of us will respect the voice of others as we strive to find our own... We accept that multiplicity exists within individual identity... Embracing diversity means accepting that diversity and inclusion are essential components of excellence that leads to personal growth, intellectual enrichment, freedom, and justice.”* Community Standards and Student Conduct System, [Community at Wheaton](#)

We value dialogue, not monologue, and encourage diversity of thought, experiences, races and ethnicities, socioeconomic statuses, religious affiliations, political affiliations, gender identities, and all other facets that capture our uniqueness as human beings. We aspire to be One Wheaton and value all experiences that comprise our community. We celebrate each other's' differences and maintain an environment where those differences can be expressed. In this environment, we balance the right of individuals to be comfortable with the right of individuals to be heard. We value each individual's total character over any single characteristic.

Diversity and inclusion are key to an excellent liberal arts education. These values extend to trustee selection. To best fulfill our fiduciary responsibilities to Wheaton College, we seek to recruit and maintain a board that reflects multiple skill sets, experiences, races, ethnicities, gender identities, beliefs, and perspectives.

As trustees, we are committed to regularly cultivating mutual respect, empathy and understanding, and to building constructive and rewarding working and social relationships. We commit to continually educate ourselves, as individuals and as a board, on the dynamic and elusive goals expressed herein.